

Ankit Bishnoi for International Representative

I came to Lincoln from Haryana, India, to do a PhD in food science. Before that I was an engineer, worked in dairy plants, and taught at a university back home. None of it prepared me for my first fortnight here. I needed a student ID, a bus card and a map, and no clue where to start. Denise Pelvin, the international student advisor, sat me down and sorted it out. That is the job. Nobody should have to rely on luck to find that person.

Here is what I will do.

An open drop-in every fortnight and a short survey each semester, so what international students are dealing with reaches the International Advisory Committee and the Student Experience Board as real numbers, not just one story.

Practical arrival help with the international advisors: ID and bus cards, banking, part-time work rules, and who to ring when something goes wrong.

Careers, because most of us came for a future, not just a degree. I will work with Student Job Search and the careers team on sessions about internships, how hiring works here, and what employers look for. I spent years in industry, so I know that side of the table.

Clubs are where people find their feet, so I will back every international club and help new ones start. There is no Indian student club at Lincoln yet. I would like to help start one, and the same goes for any community that wants its own. Then bring them together through cultural events open to everyone.

Wellbeing support that is easy to find, especially for postgraduates, often the loneliest people on campus.

I have lived these problems, I work with people from everywhere, and I listen before I talk.

Vote Ankit for International Representative.